



# Double-Copy Bootstrap

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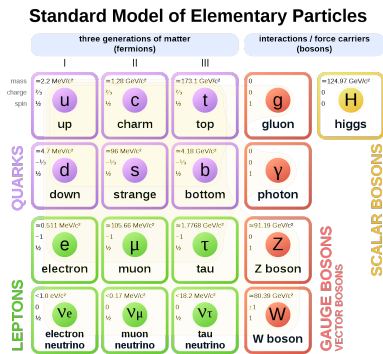
Leinweber Center for Theoretical Physics

*Based on*  
HH Chi, H.E., A. Herderschee,  
C. Jones, S. Paranjape, *to appear*

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# Landscape of Field Theories: vast, rich, interesting, *and* useful in physics!

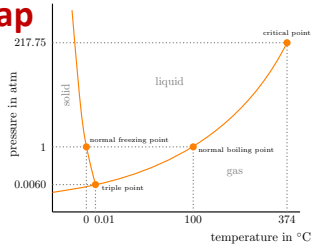


**Swampland Conjectures**  
(which EFTs have a UV completion?)

**Soft bootstrap for exceptional EFTs**  
(Goldstone EFTs)

**Double-Copy**  
(who can be double-copied and to what?)

## Conformal Bootstrap



***The double-copy is a map on the space of field theories.***

It takes (tree) **amplitudes** in two (possibly distinct) theories and multiply them in a certain way to create the (tree) amplitudes in a third theory.

For example:

$$( \text{Yang-Mills} ) \times ( \text{Yang Mills} ) = \text{gravity}^+$$

gluon	$\otimes$	gluon	$\rightarrow$	graviton
+1		+1		+2
-1		-1		-2
+1		-1		$Z$
-1		+1		$\bar{Z}$

$Z = \varphi + ia$   
dilaton/axion



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**Many applications:** Explore the UV structure of supergravity theories (finiteness?)

Gravitational radiation (3PM)

Classical double-copy (EOM)

Enhancement of symmetries

Properties of string amplitudes

Generalizations to (A)dS

chiPT -> galileons



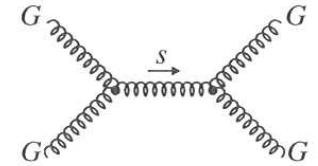
## How?

YM gluon amplitudes can be color-ordered:

$$A_4[1^{a_1} 2^{a_2} 3^{a_3} 4^{a_4}] \text{tr}(T^{a_1} T^{a_2} T^{a_3} T^{a_4})$$

$A_4[1234]$  has s and u channels, but no t-channel.

$A_4[1243]$  has s and t channels, but no u-channel.



Graviton amplitudes have no color-structure, so  $M_4(1234)$  has s, t and u channels.

How can a product of  $A_4$ 's possibly give even the pole structure of  $M_4$ ???? *And* avoid double-poles?

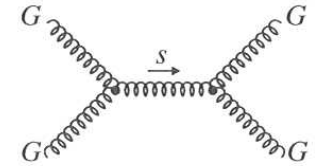
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*Answer:* need a **DOUBLE-COPY KERNEL**

$$M_4 = \textcircled{-s} A_4[1234] A_4[1243]$$

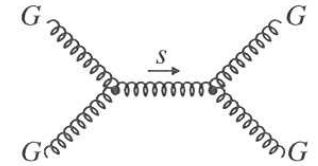
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$$M_4 = -s A_4[1234] A_4[1243]$$

$$M_4 = -\frac{su}{t} A_4[1234] A_4[1234]$$

These are examples of field theory KLT (Kawai-Lewellen-Tye 1986) formulas at 4-point.

But... if both are true,

$$M_4 = -sA_4[1234]A_4[1243] \qquad M_4 = -\frac{su}{t}A_4[1234]A_4[1234]$$

then their difference must be zero, i.e.

$$0 = A_4[1243] - \frac{u}{t}A_4[1234]$$

And this **is** true to YM amplitudes.

This is an example of a **BCJ (Bern-Carrasco-Johansson) relation** at 4-point.

Kleiss-Kuijf

Trace-reversal:  $\mathcal{A}_4[1432] = \mathcal{A}_4[1234]$ , *etc*

$U(1)$ -decoupling:  $\mathcal{A}_4[1234] + \mathcal{A}_4[1243] + \mathcal{A}_4[1423] = 0$ ,

BCJ:  $\mathcal{A}_4[1234] - \frac{t}{u}\mathcal{A}_4[1243] = 0$ .



Generally, at  $n$ -point there are KLT relations of the form

$$A_n^{L\otimes R} = \sum_{a,b} A_n^L[a] S_n[a|b] A_n^R[b]$$

← KLT kernel

and associated **Kleiss-Kuijf and BCJ relations** that ensure that the result is indep. of which color-orders are chosen for the sum.

### Field theory double-copy selection criterium

In order to be “double-copyable”, a theory’s tree amplitudes must obey the Kleiss-Kuijf and BCJ relations.

This reduces the number of color-orderings from  $(n-1)!$  to  $(n-3)!$

A new way to explore the space of field theories: which theories can be input/output of the double-copy?

## Which theories obey the KK&BCJ relations?

YM theory ✓

Chiral perturbation theory ✓

Super YM theory ✓

Bi-adjoint scalar model ✓

## Which theories obey the KK&BCJ relations?

YM theory ✓

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Super YM theory ✓

Bi-adjoint scalar model ✓

*What about higher-derivative operators in EFTs?*

Amplitudes offer an efficient systematic way to characterize higher-derivative operators.

YM:  $\text{tr}F^2$  ✓  $\text{tr}F^3$  ✓  $\text{tr}F^4$  1X  $\text{tr}D^2F^4$  1✓1X  $\text{tr}D^4F^4$  1✓2X ...

MHV

## Which theories obey the KK&BCJ relations?

YM theory ✓      Chiral perturbation theory ✓

Super YM theory ✓      Bi-adjoint scalar model ✓

*What about higher-derivative operators in EFTs?*

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$\chi$ PT:  $\text{tr}\partial^2\phi^n$  ✓    $\text{tr}\partial^4\phi^4$  2X    $\text{tr}\partial^6\phi^4$  1✓1X    $\text{tr}\partial^8\phi^4$  1✓2X    $\text{tr}\partial^{10}\phi^4$  1✓2X ...

*Why are some operators allowed and not others? Is this the most general story?*



Gravity<sup>+</sup> + h.d. →  $A_n^{L\otimes R} = \sum_{a,b} A_n^L[a] S_n[a|b] A_n^R[b]$

YM + h.d. →  $A_n^L[a]$

YM + h.d. →  $A_n^R[b]$

Should also include **higher-derivative corrections to the double-copy kernel**

# String theory KLT

KLT originally came from closed string = (open string)<sup>2</sup> at tree-level

$$A_n^{L\otimes R} = \sum_{a,b} A_n^L[a] S_n[a|b] A_n^R[b]$$

string KLT kernel


The KLT kernel is deeply linked with the open string amplitudes to ensure correct pole structure in the closed string amps.

Upon expansion in  $\alpha'$ , this translates to very particular higher-derivative corrections of the kernel: not the most general options and tuned exactly to the  $\alpha'$  corrections in the open string.

Example:  $S_4[1234|1243] = -\sin(\pi\alpha's) = -\pi\alpha's + \frac{1}{6}(\pi\alpha's)^3 + \dots$

Only  $s$ -dependence, no  $t$  or  $u$ ; why?

Only odd powers in  $s$ ; why?

$$A_n^{L \otimes R} = \sum_{a,b} A_n^L[a] S_n[a|b] A_n^R[b]$$


**What are the rules for generalizing the KLT kernel?**

We present proposal for *generalizing the double-copy: a bootstrap for the KLT kernel*.

- Can systematically solve for higher-derivative corrections to the kernel
- What makes the string kernel special?
- Explore if there are new versions of the double-copy

**Forthcoming work with**

HuanHang Chi (Michigan)

Aidan Herderschee (Michigan)

Callum Jones (UCLA)

Shruti Paranjape (Michigan -> UC Davis)

The proposal is based on the **KLT algebra** which I'll now introduce





# KLT algebra

Double copy is a map  $FT \times FT \rightarrow FT$

Usual field theory double-copy

FT $\otimes$ FT	YM	$\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM	$\chi$ PT	BAS
YM	gravity+	$\mathcal{N} = 4$ SG	BI	YM
$\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM	$\mathcal{N} = 4$ SG	$\mathcal{N} = 8$ SG	$\mathcal{N} = 4$ sDBI	$\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM
$\chi$ PT	BI	$\mathcal{N} = 4$ sDBI	sGalileon	$\chi$ PT
BAS	YM	$\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM	$\chi$ PT	BAS

This map has an *identity element 1*:  
the **bi-adjoint scalar model (BAS)**

String KLT also has an identity element  
and the *same* algebra

$$L = L \otimes \mathbf{1}, \quad R = \mathbf{1} \otimes R, \quad \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{1}.$$

# KLT algebra

Double copy is a map  $FT \times FT \rightarrow FT$

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$\chi$ PT	BI	$\mathcal{N} = 4$ sDBI	sGalileon	$\chi$ PT
BAS	YM	$\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM	$\chi$ PT	BAS

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Generalize the monodromy / KKBCJ relations

KLT Bootstrap  
Equation

***We propose that the KLT algebra is the fundamental principle for generalizing the double-copy***

## Bi-Adjoint Scalar Model (BAS)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{BAS}} = -\frac{1}{2} \left( \partial_\mu \phi^{aa'} \right)^2 - g f^{abc} \tilde{f}^{a'b'c'} \phi^{aa'} \phi^{bb'} \phi^{cc'}$$

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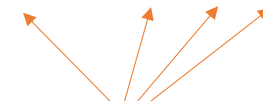
Statement  $\text{BAS} = \text{BAS} \times \text{BAS}$  --- or  $1 = 1 \otimes 1$  can be written as

$$m_n[\gamma|\delta] = \sum_{\alpha, \beta} m_n[\gamma|\alpha] S_n[\alpha|\beta] m_n[\beta|\delta]$$

Double-sum over  $(n-3)!$  color orderings

or in **matrix form**

$$m_n = m_n \cdot S_n \cdot m_n$$



$(n-3)! \times (n-3)!$  submatrices



# Bi-Adjoint Scalar model (BAS)

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or in **matrix form**  $m_n = m_n \cdot S_n \cdot m_n$

So multiplying from both the left and right with inverses of matrices of BAS amplitudes gives

$$S_n = (m_n)^{-1}$$

[Cachazo et al]

The KLT kernel is the inverse of an  $(n-3)! \times (n-3)!$  submatrix of BAS amplitudes!

The string KLT kernel is also the inverse of a  $(n-3)! \times (n-3)!$  submatrix of amplitudes

[Mizera]

# Generalize the KLT kernel

BAS + higher-derivative corrections (characterized by on-shell matrix elements)

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{BAS}} + a_{0,0}\phi^4 + a_{1,i}d^2\phi^4 + a_{2,i}d^4\phi^4 + \dots$$

KLT bootstrap eq from  $\mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{1}$  to determine solution for the coefficients  $a_{i,j}$

## 4-point result

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 + f^{abc}f^{a'b'c'}\phi^{aa'}\phi^{bb'}\phi^{cc'} \\
 & + \frac{a_L + a_R}{2\Lambda^4}f^{abx}f^{cdx}f^{a'b'x'}f^{c'd'x'}(\partial_\mu\phi^{aa'})\phi^{bb'}\phi^{cc'}\phi^{dd'} \\
 & + \frac{a_R}{\Lambda^4}f^{abx}f^{cdx}d^{a'b'x'}d^{c'd'x'}(\partial_\mu\phi^{aa'})\phi^{bb'}(\partial^\mu\phi^{cc'})\phi^{dd'} \\
 & + \frac{a_L}{\Lambda^4}d^{abx}d^{cdx}f^{a'b'x'}f^{c'd'x'}(\partial_\mu\phi^{aa'})\phi^{bb'}(\partial^\mu\phi^{cc'})\phi^{dd'} + \dots
 \end{aligned}
 \qquad d^{abc} = \text{Tr} \left[ T^a \{T^b, T^c\} \right]$$

- There is no  $d^{abc}d^{a'b'c'}\phi^{aa'}\phi^{bb'}\phi^{cc'}$ ; does not solve the rank 1 bootstrap equations.
- There is no  $\phi^4$  term; does not solve the rank 1 bootstrap equations
- The  $d^{abc}$  terms modify the U(1) decoupling identities that are part of the field theory KK relations and generalize the known strings monodromy relations.
- Known strings kernel has  $a_L=a_R$ . The generalization allows “heterotic”-type double-copy.

# Double-copy of YM + h.d.

Impose generalized KKBCJ relations  $\mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R} \quad \mathbf{L} \otimes \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{L}$

on a general ansatz for MHV 4-pt YM + h.d. to find

$$\mathcal{A}_4^L[1^+ 2^+ 3^- 4^-] = [12]^2 \langle 34 \rangle^2 \left[ \frac{(g_{\text{YM}}^L)^2}{su} - \frac{1}{\Lambda^4} \left( \frac{(g_{\text{YM}}^L)^2}{g^2} a_L + (g_{F^3}^L)^2 \frac{t}{s} \right) - \frac{e_{3,1}^L}{\Lambda^6} t + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\Lambda^8}\right) \right]$$

Usual YM

$\text{tr } F^4$

Pole term w/ two  $\text{tr } F^3$  vertices

$\text{tr } D^2 F^4$

Its coefficient is controlled by the generalized KLT kernel

And similarly for the R sector.

**Summarizing the difference between admissible operators in ordinary field theory KLT vs. the new generalized KLT:**

For YM + higher-derivatives

**FT KLT** YM:  $\text{tr}F^2$  ✓  $\text{tr}F^3$  ✓  $\text{tr}F^4$  1✗  $\text{tr}D^2F^4$  1✓1✗  $\text{tr}D^4F^4$  1✓2✗ ...

**Gen. KLT** YM:  $\text{tr}F^2$  ✓  $\text{tr}F^3$  ✓  $\text{tr}F^4$  1✓  $\text{tr}D^2F^4$  1✓1✗  $\text{tr}D^4F^4$  1✓2✓ ...

**Green checkmark:** operator allowed with arbitrary coefficient.

**Blue checkmark:** operator allowed with coefficient fixed by the parameters in the KLT kernel.

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For chiPT + higher-derivatives

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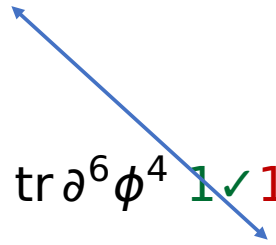
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For FIXED choice of kernel, this LINKS the coefficients of  $\text{tr} F^4$  with that of one of the  $\text{tr} \partial^6 \phi^4$  operators.

# Double-copy of YM + h.d. $\rightarrow$ Gravity<sup>+</sup> + h.d.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}_4(1^+2^+3^-4^-) &= [12]^4 \langle 34 \rangle^4 \\
 &\times \left[ -\frac{(g_{\text{YM}}^L)^2 (g_{\text{YM}}^R)^2}{g^2 \Lambda^2} \frac{1}{stu} + \frac{((g_{\text{YM}}^L)^2 (g_{F^3}^R)^2 + (g_{\text{YM}}^R)^2 (g_{F^3}^L)^2)}{g^2 \Lambda^6} \frac{1}{s} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{\Lambda^8} \left( \frac{(g_{\text{YM}}^L)^2 (g_{\text{YM}}^R)^2}{g^4} a_{2,0} + \frac{1}{g^2} ((g_{\text{YM}}^R)^2 e_{3,1}^L + (g_{\text{YM}}^L)^2 e_{3,1}^R) \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\Lambda^{10}}\right) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Usual Einstein gravity (points to the  $1/stu$  term)  
 Pole term from exchanges of dilaton *and* axion! (points to the  $1/s$  term)  
 vanishes in string theory (points to  $a_{2,0}$ )  
 local R<sup>4</sup> contribution (points to the  $e_{3,1}$  terms)

In the field theory or strings double copy, there is less freedom in the coefficient of R<sup>4</sup>.

The result of the double-copy: in all cases checked, *same operators produced but with shifts of their coefficients.*



# Higher-point

Necessary to test consistency by going to higher point:

*What if the KLT bootstrap at 5-point further fixed some of the 4-point kernel coefficients  $a_{ij}$ ?  
(Then we'd be in trouble!)*

**For  $n=5$**   $\Rightarrow (n-1)! = 4! = 24$  distinct orderings.

Cyclic symmetry + momentum relabelings  $\Rightarrow$  parameterized by 8 functions  $g_i(s,t)$ ,  $i=1,2,\dots,8$ .

We impose the rank  $(n-3)! = 2$  conditions equivalent to  $\mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{1}$  on this 24x24 system and solve.

Find consistent solution for the bootstrapped 5pt (BAS+h.d.) amplitudes; **no** constraints placed on 4-pt coefficients; in fact up to quadratic order in Mandelstams, the amplitudes are completely fixed by 4-pt input.  
*We have consistent 5pt kernel up to 7 orders in Mandelstams.*

*Tested for 5pt +++++ YM+h.d.*



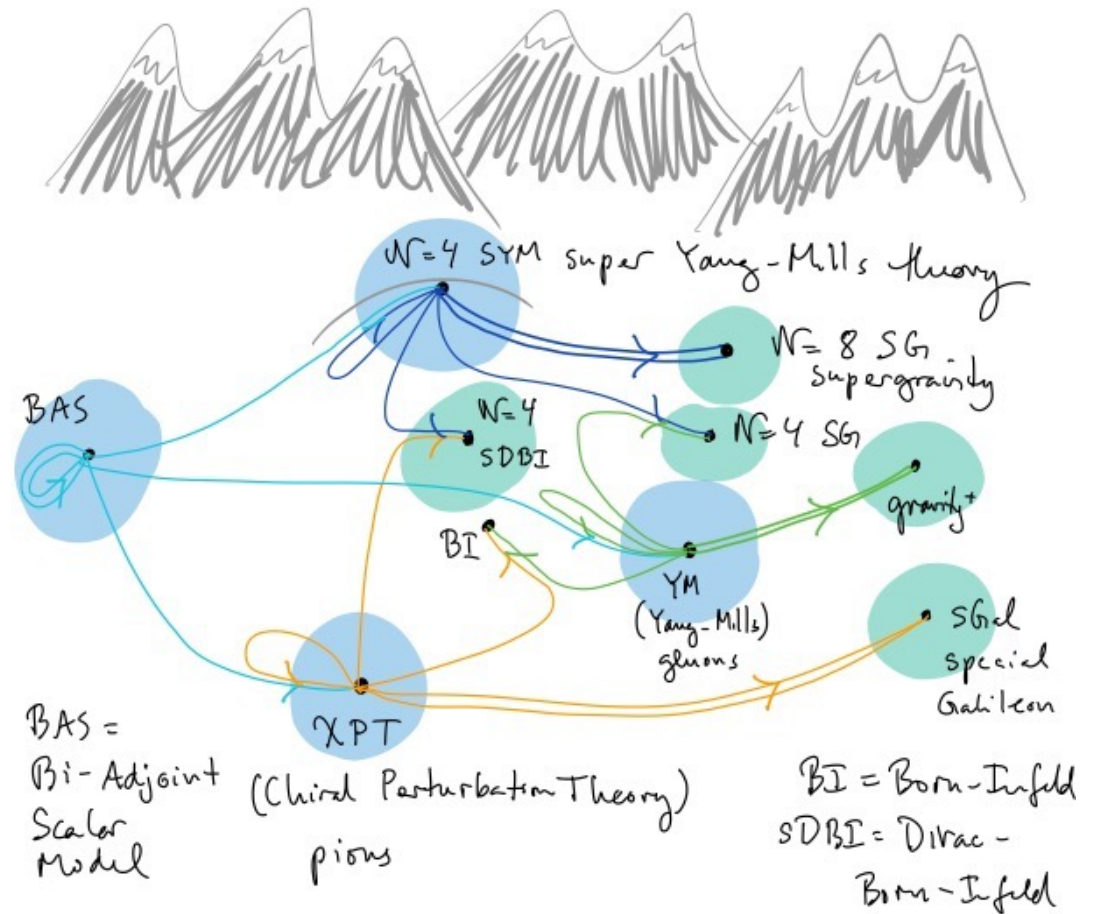
# Generalized Double-Copy

generalized KLT kernel

$$A_n^{L \otimes R} = \sum_{a,b} A_n^L[a] S_n[a|b] A_n^R[b]$$

“Expand” region of input for the double-copy via higher-derivative interactions:

**A novel systematic double-copy of Effective Field Theories (EFTs)**



## The field theory landscape is incredibly rich.

The double-copy is a map among theories that are extremely different:

- **Yang-Mills**: renormalizable theory, part of the Standard Model
- **N=4 SYM**: a conformal field theory, widely used in high energy theory
- **gravity**: non-renormalizable, ... but a phenomenologically amazing EFT!
- **chiral perturbation theory**: low-energy EFT of pions
- **BI or sDBI**: low-energy EFT on D-branes
- **special Galileon**: used in cosmology, but by itself a swampland model
- **BAS**:  $\phi^3$  theory, potential unbounded from below.

Connected by the “KLT algebra”.

*The double-copy is part of exploring the space of field theories.*



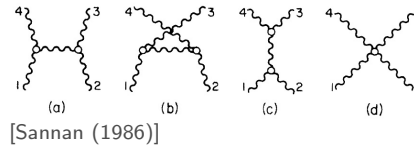
This work is the first systematic study of generalizations of the KLT double-copy kernel.  
Other solutions to the KLT bootstrap may exist.

# The double-copy is a pretty remarkable relationship!

One thing is 4-point w/ h.d. operators...

... another thing is having it work correctly at 5-pt with proper factorizations in local 4-pt x 3-pt.

4-point amplitude:



$$\begin{aligned}
 (\text{a})_{\text{gravity}} = & i\kappa^2 \left[ \left( \frac{t}{2} + \frac{su}{4t} \right) (e_1 e_4)(e_2 e_3) - \frac{1}{2} [(e_1 e_4 e_2 e_3) + (e_1 e_2 e_3 e_4)] \right. \\
 & + [(k_2 e_3 k_2)(e_1 e_2 e_4) + (k_3 e_2 k_3)(e_1 e_3 e_4) + (k_1 e_4 k_1)(e_1 e_2 e_3) + (k_4 e_1 k_4)(e_2 e_3 e_4)] \\
 & + \frac{1}{2} (e_1 e_4) [(k_1 e_2 e_3 k_4) + (k_4 e_2 e_3 k_1)] + 2(k_1 e_2 e_3 k_1) + 2(k_4 e_2 e_3 k_4) + 3(k_3 e_2 e_3 k_2) \\
 & + \frac{1}{2} (e_2 e_3) [(k_2 e_1 e_4 k_3) + (k_3 e_1 e_4 k_2) + 2(k_2 e_1 e_4 k_2) + 2(k_3 e_1 e_4 k_3) + 3(k_4 e_1 e_4 k_1)] \\
 & - \frac{u}{2t} (e_1 e_4) [(k_1 e_2 e_3 k_2) + (k_3 e_2 e_3 k_4) + 2(k_3 e_2 e_3 k_1) + 2(k_4 e_2 e_3 k_2)] \\
 & - \frac{s}{2t} (e_1 e_4) [(k_3 e_2 e_3 k_1) + (k_4 e_2 e_3 k_2) + 2(k_1 e_2 e_3 k_2) + 2(k_3 e_2 e_3 k_4)] \\
 & - \frac{u}{2t} (e_2 e_3) [(k_1 e_4 e_1 k_2) + (k_3 e_4 e_1 k_4) + 2(k_1 e_4 e_1 k_3) + 2(k_2 e_4 e_1 k_4)] \\
 & - \frac{s}{2t} (e_2 e_3) [(k_1 e_4 e_1 k_3) + (k_2 e_4 e_1 k_4) + 2(k_1 e_4 e_1 k_2) + 2(k_3 e_4 e_1 k_4)] \\
 & - \frac{1}{t} (e_1 e_4) [(k_1 e_2 k_1)(k_2 e_3 k_2) + (k_3 e_2 k_3)(k_1 e_3 k_1) + (k_4 e_2 k_1)(k_2 e_3 k_2)] \\
 & + \text{many more terms}
 \end{aligned}$$

This requires an intricate and fascinating relationship between L and R sector amplitudes and the double-copy kernel.

The new freedom in the kernel deserves further investigation.

- Moving h.d. corrections between kernel & amplitudes via shifts in Wilson coefficients?
- Interplay with positivity constraints from UV completeness?
- EFT-hedron?
- What makes the stringy KLT kernel special? (Minimal kernel?)
- Does there exist other new branches of the double-copy?

# Collaborators



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## Home Collaborators

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Thank You  
for the invitation

# Basis Indep & KKBCJ

What ensures independence of choice of  $(n-3)!$  basis?

For example, compare  $M_n = A_n^L \cdot S_n \cdot A_n^R$ ,  $M_n = A_n^L \cdot S'_n \cdot A_n^{R'}$

Basis indep. if  $0 = S_n \cdot A_n^R - S'_n \cdot A_n^{R'}$   $\Rightarrow$   $m'_n \cdot S_n \cdot A_n^R = A_n^{R'}$   $\Rightarrow$   $\mathbf{BAS} \times \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}$   $\Rightarrow$   $\mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}$

Similarly, independence of the L sector basis choice is ensured by  $\mathbf{L} \otimes \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{L}$

The relations  $\mathbf{L} \otimes \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}$  combine the Kleiss-Kuijff (KK) and BCJ relations.



# What happens if...?

**Why did we impose “minimal rank”  $(n-3)!$  in the bootstrap?**

Leading BAS model is rank  $(n-3)!$  (so is the strings kernel)

Double-copy kernel is the inverse of  $(n-3)! \times (n-3)!$  matrix of BAS + h.d. amplitudes

*So if the higher-derivative operators increased the rank of the matrix of (BAS + h.d.) amplitudes, the low-energy limit of the double-copy would be inconsistent.*

**What about bootstrapping for different versions of the double-copy? With potentially different ranks?**

Time to go back and question everything again



# What happens if...

We change the identity theory at cubic order:  $d^{abc}\tilde{d}^{a'b'c'}\phi^{aa'}\phi^{bb'}\phi^{cc'}$

3pt rank 1  $\Rightarrow$  4-pt rank 3 (no problems)  $\Rightarrow$  5-pt rank 11 (problem: inverse has spurious poles!)  $\times$

Actually OK with  $\text{tr}\phi^3$   $\checkmark$   
but not with  $\text{tr}\phi F^2$   $\times$

# What happens if...

We change the identity theory at cubic order:  $d^{abc} \tilde{d}^{a'b'c'} \phi^{aa'} \phi^{bb'} \phi^{cc'}$

3pt rank 1  $\Rightarrow$  4-pt rank 3 (no problems)  $\Rightarrow$  5-pt rank 11 (problem: inverse has spurious poles!)  $\times$

Actually OK with  $\text{tr } \phi^3$   $\checkmark$   
but not with  $\text{tr } \phi F^2$   $\times$

We drop cubic orders and start at 4-pt with leading  $\phi^4$  ?  $\rightarrow d^{abcd} \tilde{d}^{a'b'c'd'} \phi^{aa'} \phi^{bb'} \phi^{cc'} \phi^{dd'}$

4-pt rank 1 (no problems)  $\Rightarrow$  6-pt rank 10 (OK!)  $\Rightarrow$  8-pt rank 273 (spurious poles in the inverse!)  $\times$

Actually OK with  $\text{tr } \phi^4$   $\checkmark$

Two no-go results, but...

*Are there new exact solutions?*

*Are there new combinations of operators that can give rise to a new form of the double-copy?*